

ASBESTOS EXPOSURE LITIGATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded hearings on the S. 758, to establish legal standards and procedures for the fair, prompt, inexpensive, and efficient resolution of personal injury claims arising out of asbestos exposure, after receiving testimony from Representatives Gekas, Moran, Cannon, and Scott; Christopher Edley, Jr., Harvard Law School, Boston, Massachusetts; Jonathan P. Hiatt, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, and Karen Kerrigan, Small Business Survival Committee, both of Washington, D.C.; former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Conrad L. Mallet, Jr., Detroit, on behalf of the Coalition for

Asbestos Resolution; Samuel J. Heyman, GAF Corporation, Wayne, New Jersey; Richard Middleton, Jr., Middleton, Mathis, Adams, and Tate, Savannah, Georgia, on behalf of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America; Michael Green, University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City; Richard A. Nagareda, University of Georgia School of Law, Athens; and Paul R. Verkuil, Yeshiva University Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, New York.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 3011–3027; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 70 and H. Con. Res. 192, were introduced.

Pages H9409–10

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

S. 452, a private bill for the relief of Belinda McGregor (H. Rept. 106–364);

H.R. 1497, to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the women's business center program, amended (H. Rept. 106–365); and

H. Res. 323, providing for the consideration of H.R. 2990, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals greater access to health insurance through a health care tax deduction, a long-term care deduction, and other health-related tax incentives, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide access to and choice in health care through association health plans, and to amend the Public Health Service Act to create new pooling opportunities for small employers to obtain greater access to health coverage through HealthMarts and H.R. 2723, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage (H. Rept. 106–366).

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Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Wilson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H9305

Recess: The House recessed at 9:27 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

Page H9308

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Chairman Shuster forwarded copies of resolutions approved by the Committee on August 5, 1999 and copies of resolutions adopted by the Committee on August 5, 1999—referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Page H9312

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Designating the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Federal Building: S. 559, to designate the Federal building located at 33 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, as the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building"—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H9334–38

National Medal of Honor Memorial Act: H.R. 1663, amended, to designate as a national memorial the memorial being built at the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, California to honor recipients of the Medal of Honor (passed by a yeas and nays vote of 424 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 474). Agreed to amend the title;

Pages H9312–15, H9338–39

Commending the WWII Veterans Who Fought in the Battle of the Bulge: H.J. Res. 65, amended, commending the World War II veterans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge (passed by a yeas and nays vote of 422 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 475); and

Pages H9315–28, H9339–40

Expressing Sympathy for the Victims of Hurricane Floyd: H. Res. 322, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in sympathy for the victims of Hurricane Floyd, which struck numerous

communities along the East Coast between September 14 and 17, 1999 (agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 417 yeas with none voting “nay” and one voting “present”, Roll No. 476).

Pages H9328–34, H9340

Child Abuse Prevention and Enforcement Act: The House passed H.R. 764, to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect by a recorded vote of 425 ayes to 2 noes, Roll No. 479.

Pages H9349–64

Agreed to:

The McCollum amendment in the nature of a substitute that revises the description of the grant program and funding set aside for child abuse victims under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984;

Page H9357

The Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment to the McCollum amendment that clarifies that child abuse includes child sexual abuse (agreed to by a recorded vote of 424 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 477); and

Pages H9358–61, H9362

The Jones of Ohio amendment to the McCollum amendment that specifies that any increase in funding provided shall operate notwithstanding any limitation placed on the availability of the Crime Victims Fund (agreed to by a recorded vote of 389 ayes to 32 noes, Roll No. 478).

Pages H9361, H9362–63

H. Res. 321, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by voice vote.

Pages H9348–49

Recess: The House recessed at 4:00 p.m. and reconvened at 4:36 p.m.

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Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Agencies Appropriations: The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 2606, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 by a ye and nay vote of 214 yeas to 211 nays, Roll No. 480.

Pages H9364–78

H. Res. 307, the rule that waived points of order against the conference report, was agreed to earlier by voice vote.

Pages H9340–48

Referrals: S. 1255 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Four ye and nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H9338–39, H9339–40, H9340, H9362, H9362–63, H9363–64, and H9377–78. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

Committee Meetings

U.S. COMMISSION ON NATIONAL SECURITY/21ST CENTURY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the U.S. Commission on National Security/21st Century. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Commission on National Security/21st Century: Gary Hart, Co-Chair; Warren B. Rudman, Co-Chair; Norman Augustine and Andrew Young, both Commissioners.

ELECTRICITY COMPETITION AND RELIABILITY ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing on H.R. 2944, Electricity Competition and Reliability Act of 1999. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: T. J. Glauthier, Deputy Secretary; James Hoecker, Chairman, Vicky Bailey, Linda Key Breathitt, Curt Hebert and William Massey, all Commissioners, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

SEND MORE DOLLARS TO THE CLASSROOM

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Began mark up of H.R. 2, to send more dollars to the classroom. Will continue tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following: H.R. 2886, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that an adopted alien who is less than 18 years of age may be considered a child under such Act if adopted with or after a sibling who is a child under such Act; H.R. 1520, Child Status Protection Act of 1999; H.R. 2961, International Patient Act; and two private relief bills.

GOLDEN SPIKE/CROSSROADS OF THE WEST NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 2932, to authorize the Golden Spike/Crossroads of the West National Heritage Area. Testimony was heard from Katherine Stevenson, Associate Director, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnership, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Glenn J. Mecham, Mayor, Ogden, Utah; and public witnesses.